Classifications for Drugs

Directions: In the space provided, briefly summarize the key points of each classification for drugs.

Therapeutic Agents: Therapeutic agents are drugs that affect diseases to reduce, heal, or prevent it and can also treat symptoms.

Prophylactic Agents: Prophylactics prevent diseases and are commonly known as vaccines and antibiotics.

Destructive Agents: Destructive agents damage tissues and or cells such as chemotherapy.

Pharmacodynamic Agents: Pharmacodynamic Agents are drugs that attach to receptors and inhibit them to either increase or decrease processes. For example, when taking aspirin it targets the enzymes receptors to relieve pain.

Diagnostic Agents: Diagnostic agents are chemical compounds that detect abnormalities in one's body to further diagnose illnesses.

I was really surprised about the prophylactic and pharmacodynamic agents as I wasn't sure they were something that is seen so commonly. For instance, something like aspirin that is often taken is based under a receptor inhibitor category which it isn't like I didn't expect it to be something else but rather it makes a lot of sense. The same goes for vaccines.